## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# Managers

OF THE

## APPRENTICES' LIBRARY COMPANY,

OF

## PHILADELPHIA.

Read at a Meeting of the Company, held at their Room, S. W. Corner of Fifth and Arch Streets, March 10, 1857, and published by their order.

PHILADELPHIA:

ROBB, PILE & M'ELROY, PRINTERS,

LODGE ST., OPPOSITE THE PENNSYLVANIA BANK.

1857.

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OF THE

## APPRENTICES' LIBRARY COMPANY,

ELECTED MARCH 10th, 1857.

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## LIBRARY

AT THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER OF FIFTH AND ARCH STREETS.

#### TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Annual Subscription to the Library, Two Dollars. Life Membership, Twenty-five Dollars.

#### FORM OF A BEQUEST.

I give, devise, and bequeathe to the Apprentices' Library Company of Philadelphia.

Library open for the delivery of Books to Boys, on every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday Evening. For Girls, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Afternoons.

Number of	-	Library,		9253 3956
			Total	13.209

## APPRENTICES' LIBRARY COMPANY

#### OF PHILADELPHIA.

The Board of Managers of the Apprentices' Library, respectfully reports,—that during the year just passed, there have been loaned from the Boys' Library, 18,717 volumes, and from the Girls' Library, 16,253 volumes. There are now out 726 volumes from the Boys' Library, and 586 volumes from the Girls'. In the course of the year, 481 new books have been added to the former, by purchase, and 356 to the latter, and 1111 new applicants have been admitted to the privileges of the institution, of whom 732 were boys, and 379 girls. Besides the works purchased, a number of donations have been received, from the Smithsonian Institute, Patent Office Department, and other sources, which have been duly acknowledged.

Although the above statistics display a decrease in the number of books loaned, the number of new applicants, and of individuals using the Library, it is nevertheless a satisfactory exhibit, considering certain causes which have worked against us. There has been started within a few years a very laudable institution, similar in most respects to our own, which has successfully labored in the same cause. The last annual report of the Young Man's Institute, shows, that there had been loaned the preceding year, from the West Philadelphia, Southwark, Moyamensing, Spring Garden, and City Institutes, altogether, upwards of 32,000 volumes, and that their libra-

ries contained in the aggregate, more than 11,000, thus nearly doubling the facilities for free reading, offered by the Apprentices' Library alone before. As these Institutes have become known, numbers, to whom they were more accessible, have naturally forsaken us,—and a greater decrease might have been anticipated.

The Treasurer's Report is hereunto appended. noticed that the necessary outlays for salaries, repairs, gas, fuel, &c., consume about two-thirds of our present income, leaving a small sum to be expended in increasing the library. The Report of the Institute before referred to, states, that over \$50,000 have been contributed to their funds by private munificence. We would respectfully call the attention of the benevolent to our fund, and suggest, that if the individual members would send proper persons to use the library, and make occasional exertions to swell its list of contributors, they would greatly increase our sphere of usefulness. objects are more worthy of philanthropic support; for no cure to sensual indulgence among youth, is so infallible as the counter charm of intellectual pleasure, nor any earthly balm more soothing to the pains of an old age in penury, than that which flows from this unfailing source. Books are always even-tempered friends-moderators in prosperity and comforters in adversity. Men may lack food and clothing, but a well-toned and well-trained mind will rise above every misery.

Since the last report, a mansion in Arch Street, belonging to the Greenfield estate, has been sold for \$11,000; another house, of the same estate, has been sold for \$7500, and still other properties remain unsold; no further division having been made during the year to the beneficiaries of this trust.

The general impropriety of admitting works of fiction to our shelves, has claimed the attention of the Board, and they are almost unanimous in the opinion that abundance of interesting reading matter exists in the wide fields of history, biography, travels, and the like, to satisfy well organized minds, and that novel reading has mostly an unnatural and unhealthy tendency. The truths of history, and the adven-

tures of travel, certainly contain enough that is marvellous and exciting to meet the cravings of any reasonable imagination.

To increase the use of the library, the Board have directed, that attractive cards setting forth its facilities, be hung conspicuously in Manufactories, and other public places.

Should our future efforts be wisely directed, we cannot doubt that the smiles of Heaven will rest upon them as here-tofore, and that our interesting institution will continue to be the channel through which joy will flow to hearts who would otherwise have grovelled in the dust, causing sunshine to be shed, and blessings to be strewn in their path.

By order of the Board,

JAMES J. BARCLAY, Chairman.

WM. R. MAXFIELD, Secretary.

March, 1857.

hird $\{C_r$ .	\$107 13 508 00 242 81 3nds, 1139 40	\$1997 34 CR.	\$98 94 Loan 3.75, 71 25 5 1st, 71 25	\$241 44	him, \$5 00 4 00 \$9 00	SON, Treasurer.
r of the Apprentices' Library Company, from T. Third month 9th, 1857.	1856. 3d mo. 10. By balance of Cash this date, 1857. "Abnual Subscriptions of members, "recoivedfor Fines, and for Catalogues sold, "tor Groundrent, Interestand Dividends, 1139 40	\$1997-34   and of the Apprentices' Library Co. in account with Samnel Mason, Treasurer.	1856. 3rd mo. 10. By balance of Cash per Report this dato, 1857. 1st mo. 13. By Cash received for Interest on \$2500 City Loan transferred from general account \$75, lesstax 3.75, 13. By Cash received for interest on City Loan, due 1st,	. Account.	1857. 2nd mo. 3. By Cash from Jesse Ogden, collected by him, 3rd mo. 7. By Cash from Jesse Ogden,	SAMUEL MASON,
$D_{l^*}$ . Abstract of the accounts of Samuel Mason, Treasurcr of the Apprentices' Library Company, from Third month 1857.	To Cash paid Book Committee, for purchase of books, \$600 00  "Gas bills, "Insurance of books and furniture, "Salarios of Librarians, and services collecting  books, &c., "paid on account New Stock, "transferred to account of Building Fund, "Printing, Paper, &c., "Incidentals, to Room Committee, fuel, &c., "Incidentals, to Room Committee, fuel, &c., "Ti 87 "Binding Books, "Balance of Cash on hand on General Account, 39 39	\$1997 34 Building Fund of the Apprentices' Library Co		\$241 44 Gnarantor Account.	3rd no. 7. To Cash returned by Jesse Ogden, Librarian, \$2 00   1857. 9. To Balance, $\frac{9. \text{ To Balance}}{89 00}$	The undersigned appointed by the Board of Managers, to examine and settle the Treasurer's account, have attended to that duty, and find the account correct, there being the following balances in his hand due to Company:—  On General account,  On account Building Hund,  John Albert Carburary,  Third month 9, 1857. T. Bowder,
$D_{l}$ . Abs	1857. To Co	DR.	1857. 3rd mo. 9. To Balance,		1857. 3rd n	The undersign and settle the Tthe account cort the Account cort the Company:—Phila., Third

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